

tural family (*Rosaceæ*). A *Potentilla*, which had for some years been a favourite plant from its great luxuriance of growth and bloom, played in that year, without removal or any alteration of treatment, the following strange antics. As usual it grew luxuriantly and was covered with bud, but it did not bear a *single* true flower throughout the season. Every flower on the plant, without exception,—and none died off,—opened into a tuft of small regular green leaves: it was not a mere whorl of leaves for the petals, but, there being no stamens or pistils, the whole apparatus of the flower was replaced by green leaves of small size in a thick tuft. Sometimes a second would grow, smaller, from the centre of the first flower, but it presented the same aspect. All these leaves were of the same colour and character as the ordinary leaf of *Potentilla*.

I was much interested in observing this plant, and watched it the next spring, but it died after this unnatural effort.

If you think either of the above facts worth recording, you are welcome to them.

I am, my dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

J. TOULMIN SMITH.

W. Francis, Esq.

Descriptions of two new species of Planaria. By JOSEPH LEIDY, M.D.

Planaria maculata. Superiorly convex, faintly blackish or brownish with irregular colourless maculæ; inferiorly flat, colourless; anteriorly trapezoidal; posteriorly spatulate or oval; eyes two, anterior, proximate, composed of a large semitransparent mass with a reniform mass of pigmentum nigrum at the postero-internal part; oral aperture ventral, one third the length of the body from the posterior extremity; proboscis large and cylindrical. Length $2\frac{1}{4}$ lines; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ line. Found in moderate abundance in the ditches below the city, creeping upon the submerged stems of aquatic plants.

Subgenus. *Prostoma*, Dugès. Mouth anterior and terminal.

Prostoma marginatum. Blackish, narrow lanceolate, anteriorly truncate; marginate, margin delicately striate; mouth large; proboscis large and oblong; eyes two, anterior, distant, each consisting of two round masses of pigmentum nigrum in contact with each other, and of which one is larger than the other; generative orifice one-fourth the length of the body from the posterior extremity. Length 1 line. A single specimen found with the preceding, but probably not rare; for, from its small size, it escaped my notice while collecting some of the former, and it was not until I got home that I detected its existence in the vessel of water containing the others.

The anatomy of *P. maculata* does not differ from that of *Planaria lactea*, as given by Dugès in the 'Annales des Sciences Naturelles.' In *Prostoma marginatum* the digestive cavity has not the dendritic arrangement of *Planaria*, but merely consists of a large capacious sac extending as far back as the posterior third of the body, and having a cæcum upon each side of the proboscis. The penis has a yellow colour, and consists of a round granular mass, with a moderately long